

Claim Amendments

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) The marinating machine of claim 14 4 and further comprising at least one wheel on said first axle, said wheel fixed for rotation with said first axle, said at least one wheel having an outer surface contactable by said drum for rotating said drum.

3. (currently amended) A marinating machine having a motor, a first axle having a first axis of rotation, a second axle having a second axis of rotation, said first axis parallel to said second axis and spaced therefrom, a drum having a third axis of rotation, said drum rotatably supported by said first axle and said second axle, the improvement wherein

said first and said third axis define ~~defining~~ a first plane,

said second and said third axis define ~~defining~~ a second plane,

said first plane and said second plane intersecting at an angle of least one hundred degrees, and

said marinating machine further comprises

~~a motor, and~~

a drive assembly between said motor and said first axle~~means~~ for drivingly rotating only said first axle with power from said motor, and-

said first axle rotated in a direction wherein said rotation will apply an upward component of force to said drum.

4. (original) The marinating machine of claim 3 and further comprising at least one wheel on said first axle, said wheel fixed for rotation with said first axle, said at least one wheel having an outer surface contactable by said drum for rotating said drum.

5. (currently amended) The marinating machine of claim 3 and further comprising

a drum having a cylindrical inner surface,

a first paddle assembly having at least two first paddles, each of said at least two first paddles of said first plurality having a first width,

a second paddle assembly having at least two second paddles, each of said at least two second paddles having a second width,

said first width different from said second width, and

means for removably retaining one of said first paddle assembly and said second paddle assembly in said drum and

~~means for removably retaining said second paddle assembly in said drum.~~

6. (currently amended) The marinating machine of claim 5 wherein,
said cylindrical inner surface has a given diameter,

said first paddle assembly comprises two first paddles each of which has an
having outer ends,

and said marinating machine further comprises

means for compressibly retaining said outer ends of said first paddles a distance
apart that is greater than said given diameter.

7. (currently amended) A marinating machine comprising
a drum having a cylindrical inner surface,
a first paddle assembly having at least two first paddles, each of said at least two
first paddles ~~of said first plurality~~ having a broad surface defining a plane having a first
width,

means for removably retaining said first paddle assembly within said drum with
an outer end of each of said at least two first paddles adjacent said cylindrical
inner surface and said broad surfaces oriented generally perpendicular to said
adjacent cylindrical inner surface.

a second paddle assembly having at least two second paddles,
each of said at least two second paddles having a broad surface defining a plane
having a second width,

said first width different from said second width, and

~~means for removably retaining said first paddle assembly in said drum and~~

means for removably retaining said first and said second paddle assembly in said
drum with an outer end of each of said at least two second paddles adjacent said

cylindrical inner surface and said broad surfaces oriented generally perpendicular to said adjacent cylindrical inner surface.

8. (currently amended) The marinating machine of claim 7 wherein said first paddle assembly has a first paddle with a first outer end and a second paddle with a second outer end and said means for removably retaining said first paddle assembly comprises means for urging said first outer end and said second outer end away from one another.

9. (currently amended) The marinating machine of claim 7 wherein said first paddle assembly comprises

- a first paddle having a length, said first ~~and~~ a width and a thickness,
- a hole in said first paddle,
- said hole perpendicular to said length and parallel to a surface defined by said length and said first width, and
- a compressible member fitted into said hole.

10. (original) The marinating machine of claim 9 wherein said compressible member is a partially flexible rod with a memory causing said rod to return to an at rest orientation.

11. (currently amended) A paddle assembly for a marinating machine having a hollow cylindrical drum comprising

a first paddle with a length, a width, a thickness, and an outer end wherein said length and width define edges of opposing parallel planar surfaces,

a second paddle with a length, a width, a thickness, and an outer end, and wherein said length and width define edges of opposing parallel planar surfaces,

means for retaining said planar surfaces of said first paddle generally coplanar with said planar surfaces of said second paddle, and

compressible means for urging said outer end of said first paddle away from said outer end of said second paddle wherein said outer ends are urged against an inner surface of said drum.

12. (original) The paddle assembly of claim 11 wherein, said compressible means comprises a semi-rigid rod having a memory for retaining said rod to an at rest orientation.

13. (withdrawn) The method of attaching a wheel to a shaft for rotation therewith wherein said wheel has an axial bore of a given diameter, said axial bore having a longitudinal axis and an inner wall, said shaft having a diameter substantially equal in diameter to said given diameter, said method comprising

providing a second bore in said wheel, said second bore having a second longitudinal axis that is not parallel to said longitudinal axis of said axial bore and is spaced from said longitudinal axis of said axial bore, said second bore having an inner wall that intersects said inner wall of said axial bore,

providing threadings in said inner wall of said second bore,

providing a stud having a threading complementary to said threading in said inner wall of said second bore, and

screwing said stud into said threads of said second bore until said threads of said stud engage said outer surface of said shaft.

14. (new) A marinating machine having a first axle having a first axis of rotation, a second axle having a second axis of rotation, said first axis parallel to said second axis and spaced therefrom, a motor for rotating at least one of said first and second axles, a drum having a third axis of rotation, said drum rotatably supported by said first axle and said second axle, the improvement comprising

a drive assembly between said motor and said first axle for drivingly rotating only said first axle with power from said motor, and

said first axle rotating in a direction wherein said rotation will apply an upward component of force to a surface of said drum.